

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



Bridgestone/Firestone NT, LLC
725 Bridgestone Drive
Morrison, Tennessee 37257
931-668-5600
www.bridgestone-firestone.com



Hazardous Air Pollutant Reduction

The Member

Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, (BFNT) Warren County plant began manufacturing truck and bus tires in 1990. The plant employs approximately 1025 team members involved in producing thousands of truck and bus tires each day. BFNT company-wide has been dedicated to environmental excellence and continuous improvement as demonstrated by all of our North American tire plants achieving ISO 14001 certification by the year 2000. BFNT Warren is also a Charter Member of the EPA National Environmental Performance Track. We continue to look for opportunities to eliminate and reduce waste, save natural resources, and prevent pollution.



The Story

The manufacture of tires involves the use of specialty solvents, paints and inks. Some of these materials contain hazardous air pollutants or HAPs. These HAPs have been identified by the EPA as environmental and health hazards and emission reduction priorities. When the Rubber Tire Manufacturing Maximum Achievable Control Technology (Tire MACT) standard was being developed, BFNT Warren decided to eliminate the use of HAP containing materials in our process as soon as possible, ahead of EPA's schedule. In doing this, we are now in position to comply early with the upcoming MACT standard by not using HAP containing materials in the future. Our striping inks and repair paints generated 2.1 tons of HAP releases in the year

2000. By replacing these paints with HAP-free materials, these emissions are reduced to less than 0.2 tons in 2003. The remaining ink is an inspector marking ink with a usage of 1 pint a month. Also, we use a material called slab lube (to prevent uncured slab rubber from sticking to itself) that contains a glycol ether compound that is not emitted to the atmosphere during use. However, the compound is listed as a HAP, so we are replacing this material also to achieve the goal of all process chemicals being HAP-free.

The Success

BFNT Warren County has committed to reduce HAP emissions from process solvents, paints, and inks from 2.1 tons per year (2000 baseline) to less than 0.2 tons per year normalized for production. Our actual 2003 result was 0.15 tons HAP emissions normalized for production. The actual HAP emission in 2003 was 337 pounds. Most of these emissions were from HAP containing striping inks and paints that were replaced by HAP-free inks and paints in June 2003. *This means that in mid 2003, we achieved compliance with the Tire MACT standard that requires compliance by July 11, 2005, a 2-year head start!* While we would be in compliance now, we are going further by replacing the last two HAP containing process chemicals, inspector ink and slab lube, with HAP-free materials.

The Pollution Prevented

In 2003, Warren County generated 337 pounds of HAP emissions from process paints and inks compared to 4,219 pounds in 2000, a 92% reduction! Normalizing for production, this prevented 3912 pounds of HAP emission in 2003. Taking in account of the reductions in HAP emissions for 2001 through 2003, 4.2 tons of HAP emissions were prevented from entering the environment.

March 2004

TENNESSEE POLLUTION PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP
1-800-734-3619 WWW.TDEC.NET/DCA/TP3.HTM